



Courtesy photo

### Independence Day honors

Members of the 407th Expeditionary Medical Support team at Tallil Air Base, Iraq, stand in formation under the American flag July 4th. The team is comprised of staff from 10 Air Force bases, as well as U.S. Army, Navy and Marine Corps personnel. Nearly 75 percent of Air Force members attached to the unit attended EMEDS

training at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine at Brooks prior to deployment. The flag is scheduled to be delivered to Brooks later this summer as a token of appreciation for the training the team received here. The 407th EMEDS provides Level III hospital care to more than 26,000 American and coalition troops in Southern Iraq.

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# Officials report SARS symptoms, AFIOH/CDC collaborate on testing

BROOKS CITY-BASE, Texas — The Air Force Institute for Operational Health is again rising to its reputation as a world-class research facility. In April, AFIOH teamed with the Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization to monitor and test the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome virus. Experts from the Epidemiological Surveillance Laboratory at AFIOH surged over a recent weekend to process samples from several Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, airmen and non-military people who had potential contact with people with SARS after traveling through Toronto or being in contact with people who traveled there.

Nine patients exhibited minimal symptoms of SARS. They had mild to moderate respiratory illness symptoms, according to 7th Medical Group physicians at Dyess. The symptoms met the medical criteria to be considered suspect for SARS. Those symptoms included fever, respiratory symptoms such as coughing or difficulty breathing, and transit through a com-

munity with documented SARS cases, physicians said.

No one has been diagnosed as having SARS, according to officials.

Earlier in the week, an airman reported to the Dyess medical clinic with mild to moderate respiratory symptoms. After the staff learned he had recently traveled through the Toronto airport, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines required them to isolate him as if he had SARS. Other airmen were identified with similar symptoms including two who also traveled through the airport.

At the time of their travel, Toronto was still on both the World Health Organization's and the CDC's lists as being a risk for travelers. Toronto was taken off both lists within a week. In addition, the airmen were only at the Toronto airport for an hour while waiting for connecting flights en route to an air show in New England.

All of the patients were isolated at home and under the care of medical staff and were being treated, observed

and isolated according to medical protocol established by the CDC. None of those identified required hospitalization. Instead, they were isolated in their own homes for recovery and recuperation. Their families were given specific instructions for their care, which can be found at: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

"Their care and well-being is of the utmost importance to us and we will do everything possible to get them well and return them to duty," said Dyess base spokesman Capt. David May.

The patients are all in stable condition. Their identities are not being released to protect their privacy.

"Nothing is more important than the safety and health of our people and our community," May said. "Although there is no concrete evidence that any of our quarantined members have SARS, we are following all CDC guidelines and performing the necessary precautions as if they do to ensure no infections spread and our people





# Commentary



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## 311th Human Systems Wing supports Iraq operations

By Col. Tom Travis

311th Human Systems Wing commander

The 311th Human Systems Wing's mission is to provide an overwhelmingly effective war fighter through the many facets of aerospace medicine.

As just one example of the capability we bring to the fight, we have applied our operational medicine and acquisition expertise to support U.S. Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command's aeromedical evacuation system. The capability to rapidly and effectively treat and move injured soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines from the theater to definitive care gives our war fighters peace of mind so they can focus on mission execution with minimal forward footprint.

The contributions of the 311th HSW to the transformed air-evacuation capability are numerous, and were recently highlighted in the highly publicized return of prisoner Pfc. Jessica Lynch, but also demonstrated in more than 1,700 patient movements in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

After her rescue, Lynch was evacuated to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany, then later to Walter Reed Army Medical Center stateside through use of a newly deployed patient support pallet. The PSP is a roll-on/roll-off litter stanchion system that rapidly converts Air Force cargo aircraft for aeromedical evacuation use. The 311th Human Systems Program Office delivered 25 PSPs to Air Mobility Command in February before the conflict began. AMC is very pleased with this device and plans to order 50 more.

The U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine at Brooks trained the expeditionary medical support teams, aeromedical evacuation crews, and critical care air transport teams that provide in-theater expeditionary medical support and intensive care in the air.

These critical care air transport teams treat critically injured or ill patients en route rather than waiting for them to stabilize, removing them from

combat zones and minimizing the in-theater footprint.

Even decisions regarding how and where combat injured should be moved are facilitated real-time by DoD's worldwide patient management system called TRAC2ES, a program managed by the 311th SPO. TRAC2ES has solved a long-standing challenge of correctly triaging combat casualties to the best destinations and accurately tracking them as they transit through the aeromedical-evacuation system. TRAC2ES has vastly exceeded expectations, and work is ongoing to accelerate full fielding.

I am very proud that the highly skilled expeditionary medical support teams, aeromedical evacuation crews, and critical care air transport teams we trained, along with the PSP and TRAC2ES technologies we helped develop and field, have been a winning combination in support of the war effort. These examples, I might add, represent just a sliver of the extraordinary work 311th HSW people perform every day.

Aircrew equipment, human performance sustainment and enhancement, human systems integration, health surveillance, force protection and many other facets of aerospace and operational medicine are also important ways Brooks and the 311th HSW contribute to war-fighter effectiveness.

As a proud part of Aeronautical Systems Center and Air Force Materiel Command, we bring our world-class reputation and expertise as the birthplace, home and future of aerospace medicine to bear to assure that air and space power will always prevail.



Col. Tom Travis

311th Human Systems  
Wing commander

## 311th Human Systems Program Office focuses on main goal of supporting warfighters

By Col. Al Burnett

311th Human Systems Program Office director

The acquisition, development and sustainment of life support equipment vital to Air Force warfighters' capability in fulfilling a variety of national defense missions always has been the 311th Human Systems Program Office's top priority. Our most recent successes during Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom validate the importance my organization has played as an integral member of the Air Force Materiel Command team.

Since becoming director in April 2001, I have emphasized to my highly capable and professional work force the need to set goals and make adjustments to those goals as we adapt to the changing needs of our Air Force customers.

I have learned in life that to ensure success when fulfilling work requirements, taskings or missions, a series of goals must be established. As leaders we can not limit ourselves to setting just one single goal, otherwise variables may influence outcomes, thus changing the dynamics and conditions that could lead to failure.

It is therefore imperative that my organization maintain a set of goals supporting our warfighters. These goals must be linked to what AFMC commander Gen. Lester Lyles shared with Brooks leaders during his recent visit. He said, "The key thing to keep in mind is to ensure that the Air Expeditionary mindset and culture is in everything we do, that we never forget that this culture and mindset supports the warfighters."

The first goal I established was to create a "road

map" for getting things done expeditiously in support of our warfighters, who are the end-users of products the SPO acquires and develops.

This road map addresses all the MAJCOMs' requirements and priorities relating to aircrew protection. This SPO initiative already has been endorsed by senior Air Force leaders, resulting in additional funding for aircrew protection research and development.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper has set some of his own goals to help warfighters in the areas of aircrew laser eye protection and ACES II ejection seat improvements. Recognizing an unfunded need, Gen. Jumper has decided to fund laser eye protection research and development and directed AFMC to fund ACES II ejection seat upgrades. As a consequence of these actions, aircrew protection research, development and production has been identified as number 5 of 70 on the Air Force unfunded priority list. Additionally, approval to fully fund the rest of aircrew protection requirements has been made in the '06 POM.

Our next goal is to use the road map to normalize the medical systems acquisition process. This will involve the aeromedical and medical information technology communities working in concert with the 311th SPO to design and build better medical information technology and command and control systems.

These initiatives are built on the 311th SPO foundation for safeguarding aircrews and maintainers while helping them do their jobs more efficiently and effectively. To that end, our ultimate goal is becoming worthy of our warfighters' trust in us to do the right thing on their behalf.



Col. Al Burnett

311th Human Systems  
Program Office director



# AADD eliminates all drinking and driving excuses

By Rita Boland  
Staff Writer

Airmen on Brooks have no excuse for drinking and driving thanks to a handful of dedicated volunteers.

After some recent incidents involving Brooks personnel, airmen on base decided to revive Airman Against Drunk Driving, a program that provides rides to other intoxicated airmen who have exhausted their options.

“We’re not a taxicab service,” said Staff Sgt. Ben Rosciglione, secretary of the organization. “When all other plans have failed the individual, we’re available.”

AADD only gives rides directly from the place of pick-up to the intoxicated individual’s home.

The volunteers of AADD encourage the Brooks community to “Think Before you Drink” and never choose to drink and drive.

“(Drinking and driving) is one of the most senseless ways to ruin your career,” Rosciglione said. “The ramifications of that one night will stick with you for the rest of your career. (AADD) will make people think — there is a program out there for me to use.”

AADD runs totally on volunteer efforts and donations. The organization

has between 30 and 40 volunteers, but hopes to see those numbers grow.

“Our goal is to get between 60 and 70 volunteers,” Rosciglione said. “The main thing that drives us is volunteers. Anybody who’d be willing to volunteer would be greatly appreciated.”

Currently, drivers are on call about twice a month. If AADD reaches its volunteer goal, drivers will be on call only once every month or two.

Volunteers range from airman basic to chief and have a variety of family situations from single to married with children. AADD has more female than male volunteers. The week is divided into two shifts, Monday-Thursday and Friday-Sunday. A male and a female driver are on-call during the shifts.

“I’d prefer males calling males and females calling females,” said Airman 1st Class Marshall Shambo, AADD president, “just to make it easier on everybody and safer for everybody.”

AADD runs an incentive program awarding the driver with the most hours in a month the “Driver of the Month” award. Winners receive prizes like free dinners, car washes and possibly a one-day pass.

AADD operated on Brooks from last December to April, but lack of participation caused the program to fold.

“The key thing to getting (AADD) going and maintaining it ... is to keep individuals who are motivated and to keep the functions in place to keep it solid,” Rosciglione said.

The members of AADD hope the governing board of the program as well as the in-development website, which may be linked to the Brooks homepage, will help keep the program running.

“(AADD) just seemed like some-

“*Drinking and driving is one of the most senseless ways to ruin your career. The ramifications of that one night will stick with you for the rest of your career. (AADD) will make people think - there’s a program out there for me to use.*”

Staff Sgt. Ben Rosciglione  
Secretary  
Brooks Airmen Against Drunk Driving

thing that needed to be done,” Shambo said. “I think it is a very important program. Always give people extra options for when planning fails.”

Drivers don’t ask callers for any personal information and don’t report rides to squadron commanders or other leadership.

“We don’t ask info unless it’s a safety issue (for the driver),” Rosciglione said. “It’s completely confidential.”

The non-profit organization runs purely on donations and uses cellular phones from the 311th Communications Squadron.

Individuals or organizations who would like to donate to AADD to offset expenses should contact Airman 1st Class Daniel Crum at 536-3040.

Numbers for the on-call volunteers are: Male — 240-6543; Female/Alternate — 602-0125. Anyone who would like to volunteer can call Staff Sgt. Rosciglione at 536-3680.

## SARS

Continued from Page 1

are well taken care of.”

Scientists at CDC and other laboratories have detected a previously unrecognized coronavirus in patients with SARS.

This new coronavirus is the leading hypothesis for the cause of SARS. The Dyess patients have been tested for the presence of coronavirus, and medics are awaiting results, which will be made public; however, even if the coronavirus is not present, it does not guarantee that a person does not have SARS, according to officials.

Conversely, if a coronavirus is present, this does not guarantee that a patient does have SARS. A combination of diagnostic tools is used to identify SARS.

“Due to the national implications of these cases, we collaborated with the CDC by splitting samples for additional testing,” said AFIOH Director Eric Stephens.

The CDC recommends that people consult a health-care provider if they have a fever greater than 100.4 degrees accompanied by a cough or difficulty breathing. The patient should tell the provider about any recent travel to regions where cases of SARS have been reported. The patient should also tell if he or she has potentially been in contact with someone who had these symptoms, officials said.

People who think they might have symptoms of SARS should not proceed to local hospitals or emergency rooms. Instead, they should contact their primary health-care provider.

(Compiled from reports by Air Force Print News)



# Brooks has a plan— Alternative Dispute Resolution

By Iris Seals

Installation ADR Champion

After several months of meetings and discussions, the 311th Human Systems Wing Alternative Dispute Resolution plan was recently signed by Deputy Director Dr. Brendan Godfrey and W.D. Whiting, president of the American Federation of Government Employees, Local 1757.

The Air Force policy directive for ADR is designed to implement the Administrative Dispute Resolution Act, passed by Congress in 1996 when they realized dispute resolution proceedings had become increasingly formal, costly and lengthy. Air Force Materiel Command installations were then tasked to develop a plan to promote ADR and to appoint an installation ADR champion. The 311th HSW plan is intended to meet all requirements and is consistent with the plan published by the Secretary of the Air Force in 2001.

The most common ADR processes, including facilitation, arbitration, fact-finding, mini-trials, or any combination, is called mediation. The process can be applied to most workplace disputes, grievances, or complaints and is most effective when used as early as possible at the lowest level within an organization. Mediation is non-adversarial in nature and both parties maintain control over the outcome by addressing issues, not personalities. Mediation is voluntary and confidential when both parties mutually agree to use the process. Throughout mediation, each party has the right to be ac-

companied by a representative of their choice, in accordance with relevant agreements, statutes, and regulations. If a resolution is reached, a settlement agreement is written in the words of both parties. The agreement is tentative until reviewed by appropriate agencies for legal sufficiency. Within five days, the matter is decided and both parties receive a final copy of the agreement.

A neutral is an individual who is dedicated to the process, possesses a blend of experience and impartiality and maintains confidentiality. Neutrals are trained to act as mediator when two parties meet to discuss a workplace dispute or dissatisfaction. Neutrals are required to participate in at least 8 hours of training every year.

The ADR process is a nontraditional tool for problem solving at the lowest organizational level. Both parties agree to use a neutral to resolve workplace disputes or issues. The goal of ADR is to resolve problems promptly while focusing on mutual interests, teamwork, trust, and satisfaction. The mediator assists both parties in discussing their interests to reach a settlement both can accept.

The ADR plan provides opportunity for all personnel, military and civilian, to voluntarily resolve workplace disputes. The techniques should be available for resolving matters raised within Equal Employment Opportunity, the Merit Systems Protection Board, Negotiated Grievance Procedures, the Administrative Grievance System, unfair labor practice charges, Military Equal Opportunity and Treatment and any other workplace disputes.

For more information contact Iris Seals, Brooks installation ADR champion at 536-3249, Civilian Personnel at 536-3354, Military Equal Opportunity at 536-2574, Civilian Equal Employment Opportunity at 536-3702 or the American Federation of Government Employees, Local 1757 at 536-5304.

## 11th Annual “Stars and Bars” celebrates military excellence

By 1st Lt Patricia Rohrbeck

311th Medical Squadron Chief of Public Health

Junior and general officers from various military installations across Texas will celebrate military excellence Aug. 8 as they share an evening of camaraderie and military heritage at the annual Stars and Bars Dining-In at Lackland Air Force Base. The event kicks off with a golf outing at Lackland that morning.

Each year the Randolph Company Grade Officers' Association sponsors the event to bring military leaders of today and tomorrow together to interact socially and share their experiences with junior officers.

This year's theme, “A Tribute to the American Warrior,” brings together both general and junior officers from the sister services and provides an opportunity for company grade officers to interact with senior leaders and learn about their careers.

This year's event includes powerful presentations and enjoyable entertainment. Lt. Gen. Steven Polk, Pacific Air Forces vice commander will speak. The Randolph Company Grade Officer's Association also invited the Air Force Band of the West's Top Flight to perform classic rock 'n' roll and traditional country and western music, as well as more current tunes of today's music scene.

Limited seating is available for the Stars and Bars formal dining-in so junior officers are encouraged to buy tickets early. Tickets are on sale through July 25.

For additional details about the event and ticket information, call 1st Lt. Patricia Rohrbeck at 536-6725 or contact her by email at: [patricia.rohrbeck@brooks.af.mil](mailto:patricia.rohrbeck@brooks.af.mil).





# 200,000 parents receive pins

By Master Sgt. Scott Elliott

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Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Your Guardians of Freedom, the Air Force’s grass-roots outreach information and recognition program, has touched the lives of more than 200,000 parents of airmen, a Pentagon official has announced.

The program began in 2002 as a way for Air Force leaders to personally recognize the employers of reservists and guardsmen who were called to active duty to support operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom. Employers who were nominated by their airmen employees received lapel pins emblazoned with the Air Force logo and the letter “E,” and a personal letter signed by the Air Force’s senior leaders.

The recognition program expanded in May to include parents. Nominated parents received a letter and lapel pin with the letter “P.” All active-duty, Air National Guard and Reserve airmen may participate in the program, offi-

cials said.

About 110,000 of the nearly 590,000 uniformed airmen have nominated their parents for recognition, according to Brig. Gen. Ed Tonini, program director.

“That’s a huge number,” he said. “We’ve gotten an exceptional reaction to the program from the individual airmen and incredibly emotional responses from their parents when they’ve received their letters and pins.”

The general said the program was so well received in its first few days that technical overload initially hampered the project.

“There was such an onslaught of people signing up, so we had some problems,” he said. “We jammed the Web site to where it was virtually impossible to get in.”

The program also endured a short-lived identity problem, where some airmen mistakenly thought the program was a fraud because of its dot-com Web address.

“We are ‘non-standard’ in many ways,” Tonini said. “The standard Web sites people in the military are used to dealing with for official business is dot-mil, and we’re dot-com. A lot of people thought this was a hoax, so we had to throw water on that fire quickly. This program has both the endorse-

ment and full support of the secretary and chief of staff.”

Tonini brought a network administrator, Senior Master Sgt. Jack Gruber from the California ANG, to his team to work out the technical issues, and it has been smoother sailing ever since, he said. Gruber’s responsibilities can be really daunting; the site was, for a time, one of the 300 busiest Web sites in the world.

“The site has had more than 29 million hits,” Tonini said. “That’s pretty staggering. We’re working with new technology — we’re one of the first Air Force sites to use ‘dot-net,’ which is an Internet operating system that is very leading-edge.”

A team of six people works the program, managing the technology and “customer service” liaison between the airmen who request pins and the parents who receive them — as well as the thousands of letters and pins sent to employers.

The program will soon inform family members, employers and community leaders during times of military deployment, Tonini said.

“The overall YGOF program will be tied to air and space expeditionary force deployment schedules,” he said. “When people are scheduled to deploy, we will press very hard to make sure they have the communications and

outreach support they need in order to be successful.

“In its broadest terms, it’s an outreach program,” Tonini said. “The message we give is, we consider each of the constituencies as our partners. We can’t do our job without their support. They are full partners in the global war on terror.”

The work is important because without support from the home front, deployed airmen face a domino effect of issues that may lead to those airmen separating from the service, Tonini said.

“The program is working and it does what we were looking for it to do,” Tonini said. “We know there are parents out there who proudly wear the pin to church, the store or meetings, and every other time they have an opportunity to brag on their son or daughter. That represents a swelling support for the work of the Air Force all over the world.”

Airmen may request up to two parent pins and letters to be sent to either their parents or people they view as parental figures, Tonini said. To participate in the program, visit [www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com](http://www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com).

“Everyone has someone they want to recognize,” he said. “The person who gets the pin will feel an amazing attachment to the work you do.”



# Medical Wing research board looking for new members

By Sue Campbell  
59th Medical Wing Public Affairs

The 59th Medical Wing conducts biomedical research ranging from clinical trials, regulated by the Food and Drug Administration, to locally sponsored studies aimed at weight loss and smoking cessation. Wilford Hall Medical Center has the largest medical research mission in the Air Force, with more than 550 protocols ongoing during any given year.

Close to 400 of these protocols involve human participants who are helping researchers with their various studies. These individuals often receive therapeutic and alternative treatment for their condition and they are vital to the wing's successful research mission.

Federal law requires that each research study be approved by an Institutional Review Board. For more than 20 years, the Wilford Hall IRB has evaluated every human project conducted at their facility, as well as research at more than 30 other Air Force installations throughout the world that do not have their own IRB.

"The IRB's main responsibility is to carefully review each study to ensure the participants' safety and protect their rights," said Dr. Joseph Schmelz, research administrator in the 59th Clinical Research Squadron and the IRB's presiding member.

"We look at the risks people could be exposed to and make sure there are adequate safeguards and benefits to them being part of the study. We also look at unique military perspectives, since we are a DoD facility."

Each IRB must have at least one non-affiliated member, who represents the community's interests

relative to medical research. The non-affiliated member provides a valuable perspective during the board's deliberations. Other members look to the non-affiliated member to provide insight into issues important to the average patient treated at Wilford Hall.

"The non-affiliated member is vital to the IRB," explained Schmelz.

"They bring a perspective that most medical and scientific professionals don't normally consider. They ask the questions we don't think of and put the participants' concerns up front. They help us ensure our instructions are understandable and reasonable."

The IRB meets once a month at the Clinical Research building and membership requires a significant amount of reading in the week leading up to the meeting.

The board is in desperate need of individuals to serve as new non-affiliated members, as two were lost to recent transfers. Members are provided with training prior to serving on the board and throughout their tenure.

"There's no rank requirement, but board members must be either active duty or civilian DoD employees and, naturally, they cannot be affiliated with the 59th Medical Wing in any way," said Schmelz.

"We're hoping several people will step up to this vital role that is very interesting and satisfying. The board is essential to our research mission that saves lives and keeps the Air Force readiness posture strong."

For more information about serving as an IRB non-affiliated member, contact Dr. Schmelz at 292-5687.

# Civilian career brief now online

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — Air Force civilians now have the ability to view their own career information online from any Internet-connected computer, according to Air Force Personnel Center officials here.

The virtual Civilian Career Brief offers information that might help in career planning like current position data, pay and benefits, appraisals and education, officials said.

"The biggest advantage of the virtual career brief is its convenience for the customer," said David Davenport, chief of the Air Force re-engineering and development division, the office responsible for developing the program.

Employees will be able to see their information without having to visit the civilian personnel flight.

Besides position data, civilians can view information pertaining to:

- Certifications and language proficiencies.
- Appointments.
- Benefits.
- Overseas history.
- Special placement eligibility.

- Career program registration.
- Current job experience.
- Job history.
- Education level and history.
- Training history.
- Awards received.
- Appraisal summary.

People can access the vCCB through the AFPC secure Web site at <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afpcsecure/default.asp>.

New vCCB users will need to establish an account before using the service. Establishing an account takes only a few minutes, officials said.

Once on the AFPC secure Web site, select "Civ Career Brief" from the button menu.

"This new program isn't eliminating the career brief service from the CPF," said Davenport. "Employees can, however, save themselves valuable time over possibly having to wait in line."

For more information about the vCCB, contact the local civilian personnel flight.

(Courtesy of AFPC News Service)



## Massages now available at the HAWC

9 a.m.- 5 p.m.

*Call 536-4292 for appointment or details*

- Nancy Martinez
- *Massage \$25/half hr and \$45/hr*
  - Deep Tissue Massage
  - Relaxation Massage
  - Prenatal Massage
- Paraffin Wax Treatments
  - \$15/area (hands, feet or elbows)
- Spa Facials
  - \$20

- Robert Sanchez
- *Relaxation Massage*
  - \$25/half hour and \$45/hr





# ACTION LINE

## 536-2222



The COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE is your opportunity to make Brooks a better place to live, work and play.

**If you have a suggestion for improvement, a complaint or a problem that you have not been able to resolve through normal complaint channels or the chain of command, call the COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE, 536-2222.**

Only items of general interest will be published, so please leave your name and number for a personal response.

The base agencies listed below can be contacted directly:

**Col. Tom Travis**  
311th Human Systems  
Wing commander

311th Security Forces Squadron.....	536-2851
SFS after duty hours.....	536-2851
311th Civil Engineer Squadron.....	536-3861
311th Communications Squadron.....	536-6571
311th Mission Support Group Logistics Division.....	536-3541
Safety.....	536-2111
Housing Maintenance.....	533-4100
Housing Office.....	536-1840
311th Services Division.....	536-2545
311th Medical Squadron (Clinic).....	536-4715
Military Personnel.....	536-1845
Civilian Personnel.....	536-3353
Military Pay.....	536-5778
Civilian Pay.....	536-8370
I.G. (FWA).....	536-2358
Military Equal Opportunity.....	536-2584
EEO Complaints.....	536-3702
BX Market.....	533-9079
Brooks Development Office.....	536-3372
Brooks City-Base Marketing and Development Office.....	536-5366



## Brooks Family Support Center activities

Call 536-2444  
for information

### Volunteer meeting

**July 22, 9 -11 a.m., Bldg. 537—**

This is a call for past and present volunteer coordinators and managers within the Brooks community. All volunteers whether active duty, DoD civilians, family members or retirees are invited to attend a meeting to discuss notifications of volunteer opportunities, next year's National Volunteer Week recognition in April, Volunteer Excellence Award worldwide recognition and other volunteer competitions and relevant information.

### Resume workshop

**July 24, 10 - 11:30 a.m., Bldg 538—**

Learn the do's and don'ts of resume development, different styles and how to write and use them effectively to open career opportunities.

### Digging out of debt

**July 30, 11 a.m. -1 p.m., Bldg. 537—**

Attend this seminar and you will learn how to live debt-free and stick to it. Find out if you have too much debt, the consequences of debt, and how to get out of debt.

### Common sense parenting

**Aug. 12, 11a.m. - 1 p.m., Tuesdays, Bldg. 618 —**

This class, hosted by the Life Skills and Family Support Centers, is a six-week program designed to teach parenting skills that encourage positive behavior and teach alternatives to problem behavior. Topics include setting expectations, consequences, teaching self-control, prevention and correction and helping children make decisions. Call 536-5301 to register for the class.

### Transition assistance

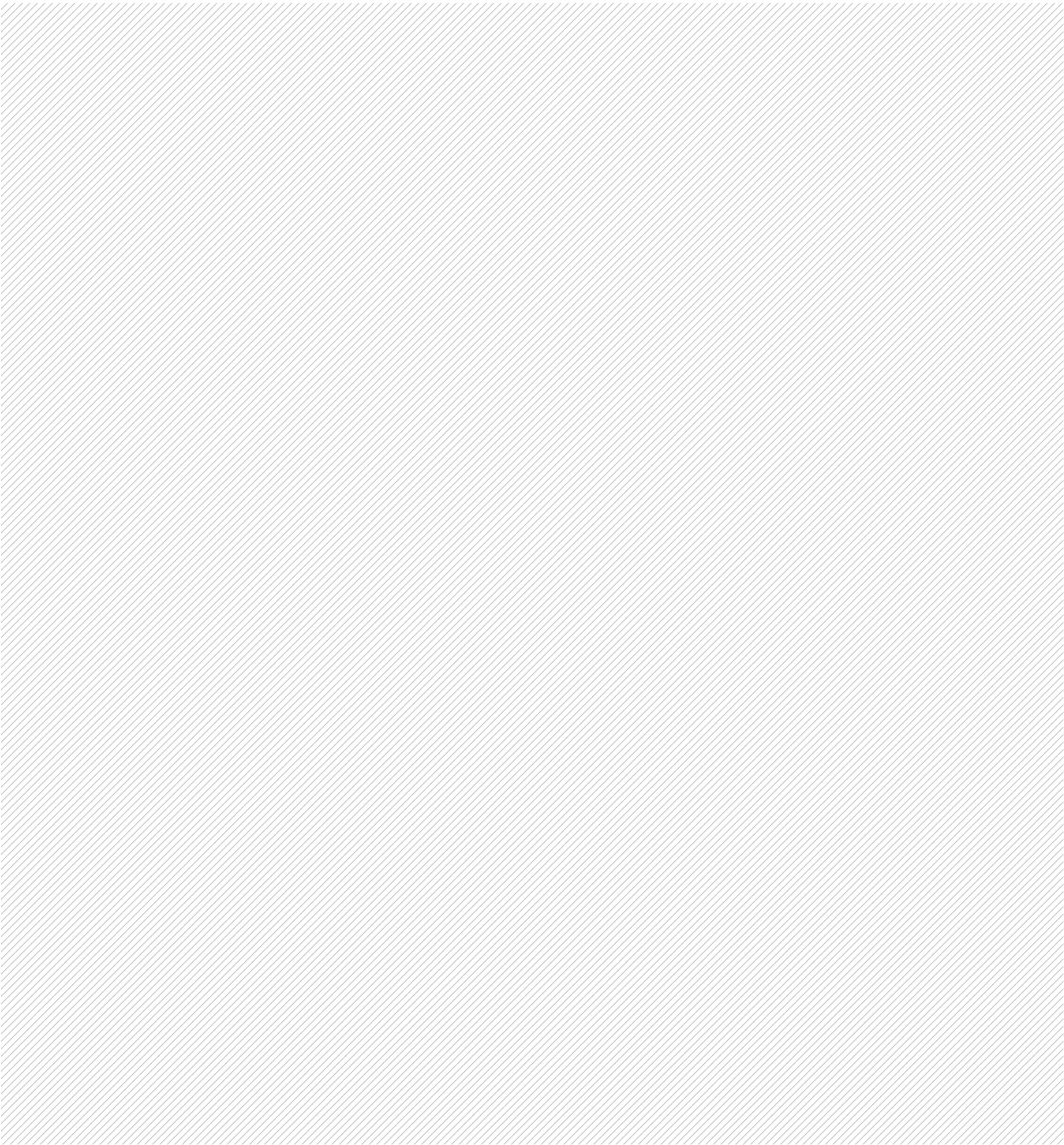
**Aug. 19-21, 8 a.m.-4 p.m, Bldg. 537—**

Making the transition from military to civilian can be a big undertaking. This seminar allows us to better serve separating and retiring members and their spouses. Topics include job search preparation, resume writing, interviewing skills and appropriate dress, veteran's benefits, and more. Members should plan to attend at least 180 days prior to retirement/separation.

### VA benefits assistance hours

**Wednesdays, alternate Fridays, 9-1 p.m., Bldg. 537—**

The on-site VA representative at Brooks has expanded hours to better accommodate Brooks personnel. Call 536-2444 to schedule an appointment and receive claims assistance, screen medical records or have a one-on-one consultation.







## NEWS briefs

### ***Enlisted Combat Dining-In***

Brooks Enlisted Combat Dining In is scheduled for today from 6 to 11 p.m. at the pavilion in the Brooks picnic area. Tickets are \$6 for E-4 and below and \$8 for E-5 and above. Tickets may be purchased through unit representatives. Contact Airman1st Class Crystal Ray at 536-2191 for additional information.

### ***Toner cartridge recycling***

Empty toner cartridges from computer printers and office copiers are recyclable. Throwing them away adds a burden to municipal waste landfills and increases disposal costs. To recycle cartridges at Brooks, drop them off at the checkout counter of The Lighthouse for the Blind supply store in Bldg. 1150. The store accepts empty cartridges from any Hewlett-Packard computer printer, including popular Inkjet and Laserjet cartridges. Call 536-3752 for more information. Toner cartridges from Ricoh office copiers are also recyclable. According to IKON Office Solutions, each new cartridge comes boxed with a pre-addressed label for easy return of an empty cartridge. Place the empty cartridge in the original box, affix the return label and tape shut. The next time UPS delivers a new toner, give the sealed box to the delivery person. The UPS delivery person cannot wait for empty cartridges to be packaged. For more information or assistance, call IKON Office Solutions at 820-0334.

### ***SGLI rates drop***

The Department of Veteran Affairs reduced the premium rate for basic Servicemembers Group Life Insurance from 8 cents per \$1,000 of insurance per month to 6.5 cents per \$1,000 per month as of July 1. This reduction in SGLI premiums makes life insurance even more affordable for today's military servicemembers. Family SGLI rates for every age group were also reduced July 1. In addition, some age groups, such as those from age 35-39, will see rates drop substantially; those in that bracket will see a 42 percent reduction in their premiums. The VA hopes these reductions will allow more servicemembers to obtain life insurance coverage for their spouses. Premium rates and more information about SGLI is available on the Web site at: [www.insurance.va.gov](http://www.insurance.va.gov).

Questions can be directed to the Military Personnel Flight Customer Service section at 536-1845 or the Casualty Office at 536-2447.

### ***Blood drive***

The next base-wide blood drive is scheduled for 9 a.m.-3 p.m., July 31 at the Brooks Chapel. The Air Force needs O Negative blood, but all donations are appreciated. Contact Staff Sgt. Sarah Cooper at 536-3743 for more information.

### ***Altitude subjects***

Altitude test subjects needed: Help provide F-22 pilots, high altitude parachute personnel, high altitude reconnaissance pilots and astronauts with adequate equipment and procedures. Several research protocols are being conducted at the High Altitude Protection Laboratory at Brooks to accomplish this mission. Hypobaric (altitude) chamber test subjects can earn \$150 per month for participating in at least one session per month. Each subject must meet Air Force body fat or height/weight standards, be a non-smoker for at least two years, be between 18 and 50 years of age, and be able to pass an appropriate physical exam. Contact Heather Alexander at 536-3440 or Jim Carlile at 536-3546 for more information.

### ***Centrifuge subjects***

The Air Force Research Laboratory Biodynamics and Protection Division is in need of active duty volunteers between the ages of 18 and 50 years and able to pass the equivalent of a flying class exam. Volunteers will participate in several studies to help in the development of safe life support equipment, protocols and procedures for Air Force aircrew in wartime and peacetime environments. Subjects may earn \$150 hazardous duty pay per month. Contact Suzanne Flores at 536-6258 for details.

### ***Sleep subjects***

The Chronobiology and Sleep Laboratory at Brooks needs volunteers for a number of ongoing sleep research studies. Interested Air Force and civilian personnel who meet the necessary qualifications are eligible to receive compensation starting at \$10 per hour. Contact Katy Ramsey at 536-3616 for additional information, or visit the website at: [www.ntiinc.com](http://www.ntiinc.com) and link to "studies."

### ***Comptrollers luncheon***

The American Society of Military Comptrollers luncheon, hosted by the 311th Human Systems Wing, is scheduled for 11:30 a.m., July 29 at the Kelly Field Club. A social begins at 11 a.m. Ron Huntsman, associate professor at Texas Lutheran University will speak on "Professional Apathy." Contact Kathy Poulis at 536-2501, or by email at: [katherine.poulis@brooks.af.mil](mailto:katherine.poulis@brooks.af.mil) by close of business today for tickets.



**By Jan McMahon**  
Brooks Services Marketing Office  
536-5475

### Outdoor Recreation

**Bldg. 1154, 536-2881**

— Travel Texas with us. Sign up now for a Labor Day weekend trip to the Dallas area. There’s something for everyone in your group. A bus is scheduled to depart Brooks Aug. 30 at 9 a.m., arriving at the Knights Inn in Arlington at 1:30 p.m. Guests will register and have free time until 4 p.m. when the bus again departs for the Medieval Times in Dallas for dinner from 7 to 9 p.m. During each live performance at Medieval Times, guests of the castle enjoy an authentic medieval feast while knights on horseback battle to the death. Medieval Times is an adventure unlike anything you have ever experienced before. The bus will

return guests to the Knights Inn. August 31 is a day of fun at Six Flags over Texas where guests can enjoy thrilling rides and shows. The bus will leave the Knights Inn at 9 a.m. for Six Flags and leave the theme park at 5 p.m. for the return trip to San Antonio, arriving around 9:30 p.m. The trip is \$125 per person, all inclusive. Make your reservations early and don’t miss out on an affordable fun-filled weekend.

— Are you planning an organizational party, unit gathering, family reunion, birthday party or a large gathering of friends? Host your event at one of the four pavilions at Brooks. Prices range from \$25-\$45. Call 536-2881 for specific details on fees and location.

— Clean up clutter around the home or office. Rent an indoor storage unit and get organized. Forty-eight units are conveniently located on the flight line across from Outdoor Recreation. A 6' x 12' unit rents for \$35 per month and a 12' x 12' unit rents for \$60 per month. Call for more information.

Outdoor Recreation rents equipment for fun summer activities. Rent a bicycle and enjoy the local area , or rent camping equipment and spend the night under the stars. Stop by and check out the items available for rent.

### Family child care

**Bldg. 1154, 536-2041**

The Family Child Care Program has moved from Bldg. 510 to Bldg. 1154 and is accepting applications for providers. Responsible adults are needed to provide quality childcare in government quarters and peace of mind to working parents in the Brooks Community.

There are only six licensed providers on Brooks and the Child Development Center has a long waiting list for children younger than 3 years of age. Parents who work irregular shifts or otherwise need more flexibility in their schedules may prefer home day care. Licensed childcare providers must be at least 18 years of age and be able to read and write English. Applicants must attend family childcare orientation training. The training includes sessions about child guidance and development. Requirements also include training courses in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid, minimum liability insurance for home day care providers and home inspections by base agencies, screenings by Safety, Public Health and the Family Child Care Office. Contact the staff for additional information.

### Swimming Pool

**Bldg. 710, 536-3744**

The swimming pool is open. Purchase a season pass and visit any day of the week. The pool is open Monday-Friday from 11 a.m. -1 p.m. for adult lap swim, and 1-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday for open swim. Weekend hours are 1-6 p.m. Friday, Saturday, Sunday and holidays.Pool parties can be scheduled for \$30 per hour through the head lifeguard. Contact the Youth Center staff at 536-2515 or stop by Bldg. 470 for information on swimming lessons.

### Fitness Center

**Bldg. 940, 536-2188**

Meet the commanders at the Health and Fitness Center every Thursday morning at 6:30 a.m. for a walk/run. Military and civilian mem-

bers of the Brooks community are encouraged to participate. Participants receive a Commanders’ Fitness Club T-shirt after participating four times. Additional prizes are offered for other sessions. Sign-up or get more information at the center.

### Base Library

**Bldg. 705, 536-2634**

The library has free copies of “Celebrating a Century of Flight” for Brooks personnel. The magazine is published by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and covers topics such as the F-22 Raptor, Space Research, Test Pilot School, Tuskegee Airmen and more.

The library also receives 100 donated copies of Reader’s Digest per month. The magazines are donated by citizens to men and women in uniform. Each magazine has the name of the person who donated it and includes the message, “thank you for defending our freedom and nation.”

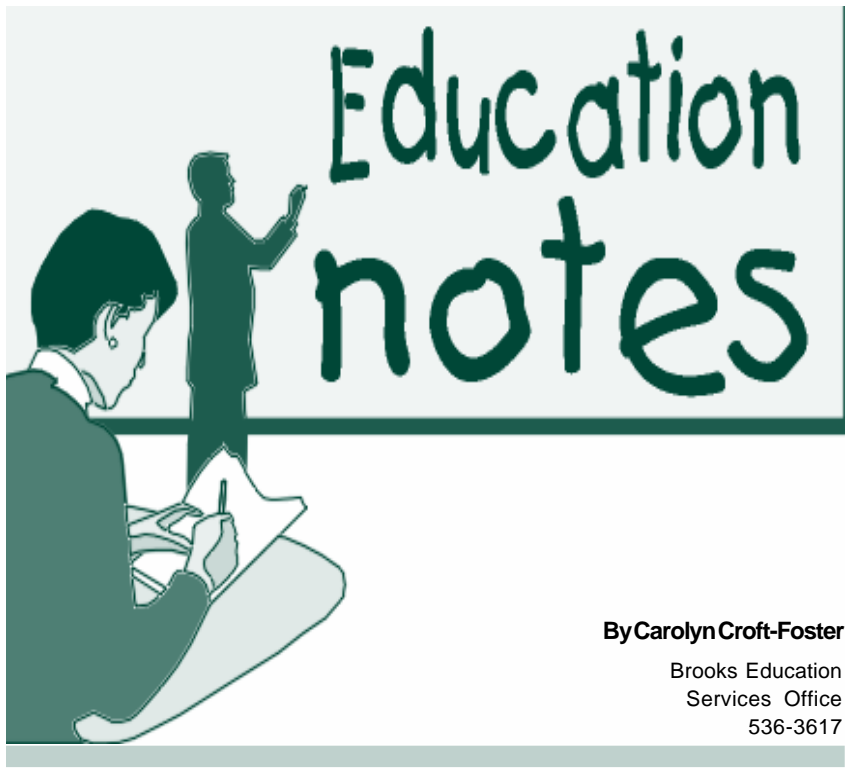
“Story Time with Flair” is the theme of the library’s story time presentation. Join our storyteller Tuesdays this summer. Children 2 years and younger meet from 10 to 10:30 a.m. for stories and activities and ages 3-6 years meet from 11 to 11:30 a.m.

### Child Development Center

**Bldg. 502, 536-2736**

The 2003-2004 San Antonio Independent School District school year begins Aug. 18. Registration for the Youth Services Center After School Program begins July 28. The program offers supervised care, homework assistance, field trips, special activities and a healthy snack.





By Carolyn Croft-Foster  
Brooks Education  
Services Office  
536-3617

### ***AWC Nonresident Seminar***

Recruiting for the 2004 academic year for the Air War College Nonresident Seminar Program is underway. Seminar meetings are held weekly starting in August and run until mid-June 2004. The AWC Nonresident Studies Seminar Program is open to active duty, National Guard and Reserve colonels, lieutenant colonels and lieutenant colonel-selectees, or their equivalents, of any component of the U.S. Armed Forces and civilian employees, GS/GM-13 or above. Eight people are required to form a seminar. Students with term credit from other editions may also enroll and should check with an AWC faculty advisor for details.

For students who cannot take advantage of the seminar program, the correspondence program is also available for immediate enrollment. Correspondence students have six months to complete each term in the three-term core program with the required elective completed sometime during this 18-month period.

Applications are available at: [www.maxwell.af.mil/au/awc/ns/ns-enroll.htm](http://www.maxwell.af.mil/au/awc/ns/ns-enroll.htm). Bring completed applications to Education Services, in Bldg. 558 or call 536-3618 for more information.

### ***ACSC Nonresident Seminar***

The Education and Training Center is seeking eligible major, major-selectees, GS-11s and above for the ACSC Nonresident Seminar Program. Nonresident seminars meet each week for 11 months from August 2003 until June 2004. The course grants Phase 1 Joint PME credit, Intermediate Service School credit, up to 27 semester hours of graduate course work, and reserve points as determined by AFPC. Seminars need eight enrollments per site. To register, visit Education Services to complete an ACSC application, or call 536-3618 for more information.

### ***Fall On-Base classes***

Registration is underway for Fall 2003 classes with Palo Alto College. On-Base classes will include History, Philosophy, Speech, Accounting, Supervision, Management, and Logistics. The State required placement exam will be offered on July 8, Aug. 5 and Aug. 19. For more information or to schedule an appointment with the Alamo Community College District representative, please call 536-3617.

### ***Virtual Education Center***

The Air Force Virtual Education Center is on-line. Servicemembers can view information about Air Force Education Centers and the Community College of the Air Force. CCAF students can also order CCAF transcripts from the site. To access the AFVEC go to the following Web site and establish an account at: <https://afvec.langley.af.mil>. Call the Brooks Education Center at 536-3617 for details.

### ***Discover on-line***

The Discover Program is a career exploration program for individuals searching for a new career. This program is available for use by military members, civilians, and family members. For additional information, call 536-3617 to schedule an appointment to review the Web site and get started.

### ***Six CLEP exams retired***

The College Board retired six CLEP subject paper-based tests in June. The exams were: General Humanities, General Biology, General Chemistry, German, and Western Civilization I and II. The following exams will be retired Nov. 30: General English, General Mathematics, Accounting, American History I and II, and Spanish. Anyone wishing to take these exams must complete them before Nov. 30. Call the Education Center for more information or to reserve a seat





## Feature



Perez

**FULL NAME:**

Staff Sgt. Dorothy Jean Perez

**DUTY TITLE, ORGANIZATION:**NCOIC, Medical Readiness,  
311th Medical Squadron**WHAT IS MY JOB?:***I coordinate training and ensure personnel are ready to deploy. I train on disaster preparedness and security of classified and sensitive information within the squadron.***BIRTHDAY:**

October 19, 1976

**HOMETOWN:**

Oswego, Illinois

**FAMILY STATUS:**Married with three daughters,  
ages 8, 6 and 1 year.**MOTTO:***"He never said it would be easy, he just said we'd never go alone."***INSPIRATIONS:**

Jesus

**HOBBIES:**

Who has time?

**FAVORITE MUSIC:**

Christian. My favorite artist is Chris Rice and Audio Adrenaline.

**PET PEEVE:**

Disorganization, confusion, chaos

**BOOK(S) AT BEDSIDE:***Last written book of the Left Behind series, Study Bible and How to be Closer to God, by Joyce Meyers***I JOINED THE MILITARY BECAUSE:***I wanted to do more with my life and improve my situation. I tried to join earlier but I was pregnant with my first daughter. I entered basic training after she was born.***FIVE-YEAR GOAL:**

Earn a teaching degree.

**ULTIMATE GOAL:***Be a blessing to my family and community and God.***IF I WON THE LOTTERY I'D:***Settle my outstanding bills, buy a house on a large piece of land and use the land and the rest of the money to help support my family, friends and the community.***MY GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT:***is raising my children***MY MOST PRIZED POSSESSION:***is my husband and children.*Brooks  
Personality  
PROFILE**By Rita Boland**

Staff Writer

Life's darkest moments can bring life's greatest joys.

Staff Sgt. Dorothy Perez experienced dark moments when her second daughter suffered from heart problems as a small child. As Perez dealt with weeks of neonatal intensive care units and trips to Dallas to see specialists, she began to realize that something, or someone, more than doctors had to make a difference.

Perez began her conversion to Christianity during this time.

"That's how it all kind of started," she said.

As Perez dealt with her daughter's illness, the pressures of the military and a divorce, she began to accept that only through Christ and Christ-like behavior could order arrive from chaos.

"The more I followed Christianity, the more uncomplicated things became," she said.

Though Perez didn't experience the immediate and total conversion of St. Paul, she did embrace the belief system with fervor and continues to persevere against the obstacles and opposition she faces in the world.

"It's hard. It's very hard," she said. "You want to do stuff, like party."

Perhaps even more difficult than the self-restraint she imposes on herself is imparting Christian values on her children who must live in the secular world.

"I'm just trying to keep them steady," Perez said.

Perez doesn't allow her children to watch television shows with content she deems inappropriate, though many of her children's friends may watch the programs, nor does she allow them to purchase toys that encourage violence or sex.

Perez does keep an open dialogue with her children, discussing with them decisions about right and wrong. She and her husband talk honestly with their children about real-world issues on levels their children can understand. "We don't really shield them," Perez said of her children. "We just don't invite it in."

The Perez family donates clothing to Goodwill and Perez explains to her children that other families don't have the same advantages they do. Her daughters also participate in volunteer efforts through their Girl Scout troop.

On the Fourth of July, the Perez family planted flags at the cemetery on Fort Sam Houston. Perez is passionate about her country, her freedom and the U. S. military.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Alfonzo Ramirez Jr.

All American NCO lets  
Jesus order her life

"We're all-American," she said. "I just love it." Her patriotism leads to struggles however when she encounters those who rail against the government and what American stands for. She just tries to walk away from the disgruntled individual and remember her own dedication.

When she encounters children who espouse views contrary to her own she just continues in silence, because she doesn't know the views of the parents.

"It's hard when it's not your kid," Perez said. "What do you do?"

Comments against the American military especially effect Perez who has loved her years in the Air Force and whose ex-husband and the father of her two oldest daughters is in Baghdad. Perez does encourage anyone to join the military.

"They'll never regret it," she said. "They might not like it. It might not be for them, but they'll never regret it. It's such a privilege."

Perez manages to balance a healthy, Christian upbringing for her children and her military position at the 311th Medical Squadron by remaining extremely organized. Her pet peeves include disorder and chaos and she strives to maintain order at work and at home.

"(Disorganization) drives me out of my mind," she said with a grin.

Her appearance reflects her devotion to order. She wears her hair in a tight, neat bun. Her smooth uniform and careful mannerisms relay a sense of control. Perez is not

staunch, however, and she enjoys time with friends and a good joke. She has a strong laugh that causes the listener to wonder how her petite frame issued such an immense noise.

"...I'm fun. I have a sense of humor," Perez said. "I make really funny jokes."

Perez also credits her faith with helping her to let go of some of her perfectionist habits.

"Part of being a Christian has helped me relax more," she said

Despite her self-described "goofiness," Perez is all business when she has a job to be done and she takes great pleasure and pride in her job.

"I feel like I'm part of the war-time mission," she said. "That's what the military's all about. You want to go TDY, you want to be in your BDU's, you want to get in the mud."

Though Perez plans to separate from the military in September to raise her daughters, a decision she wrestles with because of her love for the military, she plans to return to Brooks to visit her friends at the medical clinic on base.

Perez, who tries to live her life so that she can enjoy a better world in the next life, has found it easier to follow Jesus's message to love thy neighbor a little easier during her tenure at the clinic.

"I want to thank everyone I've worked with at the 311th MDS," she said. "They're like my family. I'll be sad to leave."

Rita.Boland@brooks.af.mil





Photo by Rudy Purificato

Kay Heihn, with the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence, periodically brings Gizmo, a 7-month old Belgian Malanois, to work to expose the future Air Force military working dog to a variety of people.

# Patience pays off for puppy program's 'pooch pal'

**Rudy Purificato**

311th Human Systems Wing

Taking a high-energy fur ball with potential and nurturing it enough so it's capable of attending dog training school is not an easy task even for the most experienced canine trainer. Yet to Kay Heihn, being a "pooch pal" to an animal that may someday help protect America's homeland is worth the fuss over puppy-inspired "backyard landscaping."

Heihn, an Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence cost performance analyst, has analyzed the cost of keeping a dog in her home for months in support of an innovative breeding program jointly sponsored by the Department of Defense and the new Transportation Security Administration.

"You provide them with love and an environment where they can tear up and destroy things," quipped Heihn about young dogs enrolled in the Department of Defense Military Working Dog Veterinary Services' Behavioral Medicine Puppy Program.

The federal government inaugurated the program in response to a growing requirement to use military working dogs in support of homeland defense initiatives.

The Behavioral Medicine Section of the Military Working Dog Veterinary Service's 341st Training Squadron at Lackland Air Force Base is the breeding ground for a program that leverages citizen support to prepare dogs for a government service career.

"The program is designed to give young dogs a lot of

exposure to a variety of different people and environments," explained Heihn who became a program volunteer last fall.

Program officials prefer that individuals or families raise puppies, 9 weeks to 12 months old, in a nurturing home for five to seven months rather than limiting the animals' development through confinement to a kennel environment.

Gizmo, a friendly seven month old Belgian Malanois, is Heihn's latest houseguest.

"I got Gizmo in early January. I have brought him to my office several times, but the older he gets the higher the energy level he has," she said.

During his last Brooks visit, Gizmo was happy to relax inside his "air-cooled" crate on the back of Heihn's pickup.

The breed, similar to a German shepherd, is preferred by Lackland handlers because of the animal's high intelligence.

"He has the perfect personality for searching out things," Heihn said, noting that what Gizmo often searches out in her backyard often gets him into trouble.

"It's hard for Gizmo to not get into things. Sometimes I want to yell at him for destroying my yard. Then he looks at me with his big brown eyes and I melt," she confesses. Gizmo is the brother of Heihn's first dog Gatsby, who was a high-

energy pooch with a bladder control problem. Gatsby also had a troublesome quirk caused by lack of exposure to people.

"He had fear biting," admits Heihn.

Gizmo's quirk is not at all hard on hands. Says Heihn, "He doesn't like applause."

Heihn, who had never before raised a puppy, was initially interviewed by program officials concerning such issues as the condition of her yard and fence, and other pets or people in her household.

"Very little training is provided prior to receiving a dog," Heihn said.

However, a key phrase she was taught is "take a break," dog talk for going to the bathroom.

Program volunteers are, however, provided with some support, including full medical service for the dogs including their shots, as well as tags, collar and carrying crate.

Puppy classes every other week are part of the program's requirements.

Veterinary behavioral specialists work with puppies one-on-one to determine, through various games and activities, whether the animal has social or environmental interaction problems.

Additionally, agility tests and medical checkups are included in periodic assessments.

"The periodic testing determines if the puppy is ready for school. If the dog

is not ready for school, I get him back for two months so he can mature. He's then re-tested. If he washes out (of the program), I have the right of first choice to keep him," says Heihn.

So far, Gizmo is adjusting quite well to his home environment which includes sharing space with "Pepper," Heihn's eight-year-old female Black Labrador.

"Gizmo shadows me throughout the house. It's hard for him to give me up," she says, admitting that she tries to not get emotionally attached.

"It's like raising foster children so they can go out into the world. These puppies have a job to do. My job is to nurture them," Heihn explained.

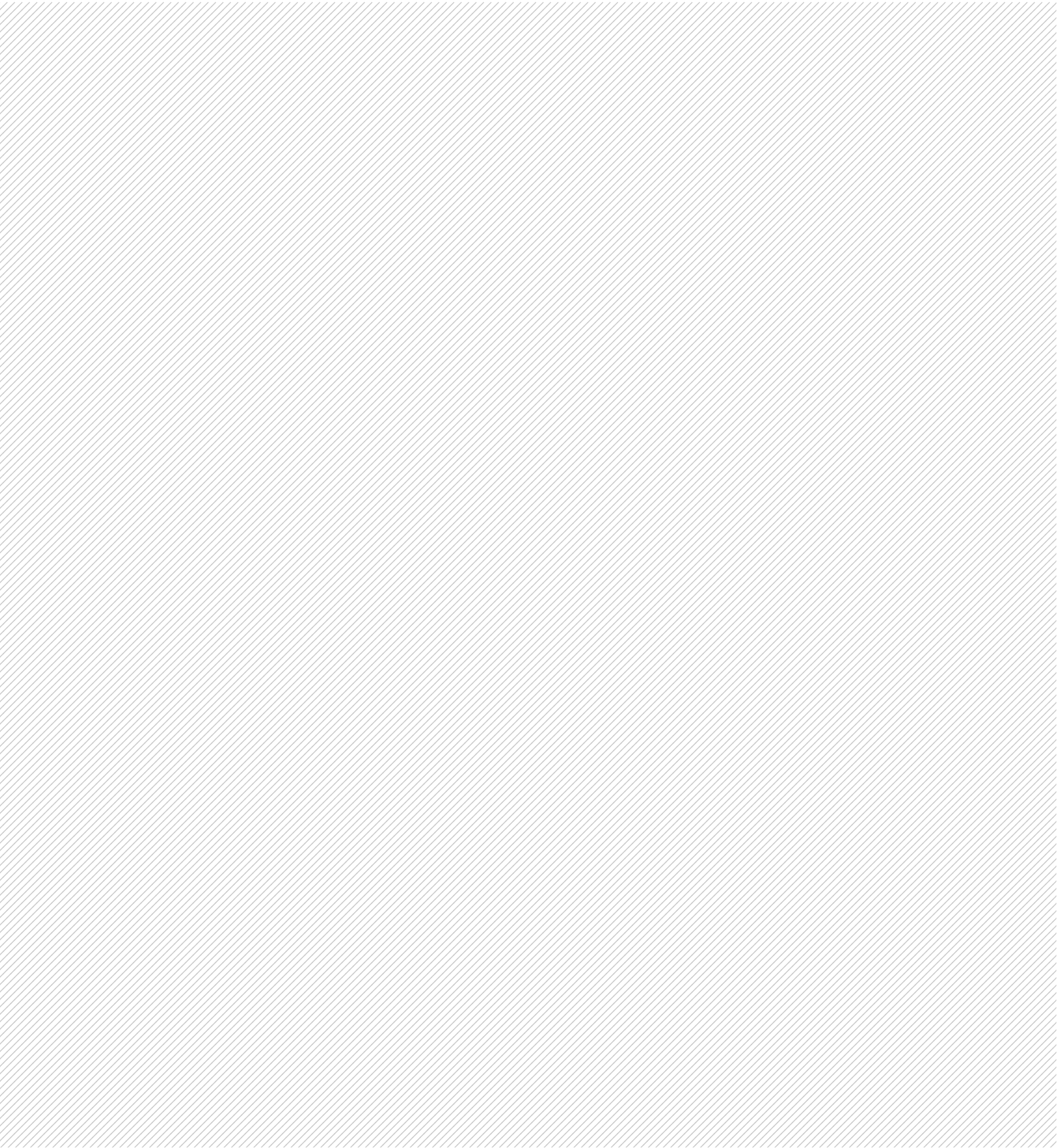
Should Gizmo make it to dog school, he could eventually be used to search for explosives, drugs, landmines, illegally imported food, gas leaks and illegal currency.

For now, Gizmo is content with teaching his master a few tricks.

"Gizmo has taught me tolerance and acceptance. I can now accept the new hole in my garden hose," she joked.

What she can not accept, however, is the notion that Gizmo "is nothing but a hound dog."

*Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil*







**Midweek mass**

Midweek mass at the Brooks Chapel is held Thursdays at 11:30 a.m.

Mass is held each first Friday of the month and on holy days of obligation. Mass is open for the entire base Roman Catholic community. Call 536-3824 for details.

**Lifebuilder's series**

The Lifebuilder's Lunchtime Series is taking a two-week break for Vacation Bible School. Lifebuilder's is normally held Wednesdays at noon at the Chapel Annex. Lunch is provided for a donation. The series will resume July 30. Contact the Chapel staff at 536-3824 for more information on themes or participation.

**Chapel schedule:**

**Weekdays:**

11:30 a.m. — Mass or Eucharistic service

**Wednesdays:**

noon — Lifebuilders luncheon

6 p.m. — Catholic choir rehearsal

**Thursdays:**

7:30 p.m. — Protestant choir rehearsal

**Sundays:**

9 a.m. — Catholic Mass

10:30 a.m. — Catholic religious education

9 a.m. — Protestant Sunday School, ages 3-adult

10:30 a.m. — Protestant Worship, includes children's church



# AFIOH melts ICE in doubleheader win for base crown

By Rudy Purificato  
311th Human Systems Wing

The Air Force Institute for Operational Health showed why they are perennial base champs by winning both ends of a base tournament doubleheader July 2 that earned them a record seventh consecutive championship crown.

AFIOH, the number one tournament seed as 2003 league champs, defeated the Mission Support Group’s ICE squad in a 17-6 and 19-11 doubleheader sweep.

The championship game was a rematch from last year in which AFIOH, then known as the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis, crushed ICE 28-8.

AFIOH was forced to play the doubleheader because they lost to ICE 15-14 earlier in the tournament. AFIOH and ICE, which stands for Intensity, Concentration and Execution, finished with identical 6-1 regular season records. However, AFIOH earned the league title and post-season number one seeding because they had defeated ICE during the regular season.

“We lost to ICE earlier in the playoffs because we didn’t have some of our starters. When we have a full team we can beat anybody,” said AFIOH head coach Aaron Sinclair. He said the base championship doubleheader showdown was the first time all year that his team was at full strength.



Photo by Rudy Purificato

**Mission Support Group’s ICE Squad congratulate Air Force Institute for Operational Health players for winning the base intramural softball championships July 2.**

“We were confident. All these guys are veteran ballplayers,” he said, noting that no one worried about their must-win situation.

ICE needed to win just one more game to capture their first base title. They were leading 5-3 in the third inning of the first game when AFIOH scored five runs capped by leftfielder Rene Ramon’s three-run blast.

In the pivotal fifth inning, AFIOH’s newcomer David Miles blasted his second home run of the game off of the scoreboard façade more than 300 feet away in left centerfield. The three-run homer accounted for half of the runs scored in the frame that sealed AFIOH’s victory.

Miles was clearly the difference in the tournament showdown. During the doubleheader, he was 8 for 8 with 13 RBIs. “He played for the Air Force Academy team before transferring here,” Sinclair noted.

The first five innings of the second game looked more like a low-scoring baseball contest as the first game starting pitchers, AFIOH’s southpaw knuckleballer Robert Alcorta and ICE’s righthander J.B. Brown, were locked in a pitcher’s duel.

ICE’s first inning lead on a Rob Collins solo homer was erased when AFIOH scored two in the bottom half of the first on a Miles solo homer and an RBI single by John Schlegel. ICE’s player-coach Carl Lewis tied the game in the top of the second with a solo blast.

In the top half of the third, ICE tried to ‘ice’ the game with a four-run outburst, taking a 6-2 lead. After Alcorta blanked ICE in the fourth, AFIOH took a 7-6 lead during a five-run rally in the bottom half of the inning. ICE reclaimed the lead in the top of the fifth on back-to-back solo homers by Collins and Ken Chandler.

After holding AFIOH scoreless in the bottom half of the fifth, ICE added three insurance runs in the top of the sixth to take a commanding 11-7 lead. That lead evaporated in the blazing heat of AFIOH’s smoking bats that produced a 12-run sixth inning onslaught. AFIOH sent 12 men to the plate in the championship-clinching sixth inning.

The biggest irony of the game occurred when AFIOH’s leftfielder Rene Ramon caught the ball for the final out and the championship. Earlier in the game, an ICE blast to him was ruled a four-base error instead of a home run when he hit the fence as the ball glanced off his glove for an unearned run. At the time, the error put ICE ahead. More importantly, it gave ICE one less home run under softball rules that limits teams to five homers per game. Homers over the limit are counted as outs.

Not counted out was AFIOH’s knack for winning the big games.